G. R. S. App. F. IX-4]

1942-3

War File No. 217-42

Previous References.

(War)

Serial Nos. 1 & 2

Later References.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos. Two only.

Part B for April 1943.

SUBJECT.

A.R.P. in respect of Government Buildings.

21.4.43

2761/W

A.R.P in respect of Govt Buildings

Continuation Sheet. War File No. Current No. 2117 of 42-3 Page.

From The Secy (to Govt Hqrs & Resdt) F. 3(38) 42/W d 24th March-43 forwg for circulation and such action as may be considered necessary a copy of CD Dept letter d 12th Mar. 43 with enclosure.

Asked for formal. If approved copies of the enclosure will be sent to the Hd. C.E.'s & C.E.3 & Factories for circulation and suitable action.

26/3

26/3

2.4.43

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2. Issued 3820-23/W d 3rd April. 43 to the Hd C.E.

A.R.P Controller Blgs.
Ci & Enclosure.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
Date 30.3.43
No. 5460

A.R.P. Controller

26/3

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B

No.D.458-A.R.P.(Poll)/43
Government of India
Civil Defence Department
New Delhi the 12th March, 1943.

From

R.A. Gopalaswami, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

To

* * * *
The Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.
* * * *

Civil Defence Department(Political)Circular No.5/43.

Subject:- A.R.P. in respect of Government Buildings.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose a note prepared by the Chief Adviser, Factory A.R.P., on the lessons of the recent air raids in Calcutta so far as they affect Government Buildings. An Inspector and a Fire Sub-officer from his staff, now in Calcutta, have been specially deputed to investigate the working of the A.R.P. schemes and fire prevention arrangements, and these notes are based on their preliminary reports. I am to request you kindly to bring the lessons before the attention of all concerned.

2. The reports emphasise

(i) the need for leadership if volunteer fire prevention personnel and others are to remain at their posts at night time. Senior officials enrolled in the A.R.P. Services should make a point of being present at night from time to time even when it may not be their turn to do so. It is their function to exercise leadership, and they should not leave it entirely to juniors. It is necessary for some senior officers to sleep on the premises regularly at any rate during moonlight spells, for some time to come.

(ii) The necessity of preventing neglect of A.R.P. duty by volunteer ARP personnel, ARP personnel in Government buildings have voluntarily undertaken an important patriotic duty, and they are to be commended for doing so. The obligations of volunteering must however be brought home to them: they are volunteers, but are not such at liberty to absent themselves at will when their turn of duty comes round.

3. Special attention is also needed to the rosters for A.R.P. duties on Sundays, special holidays, and periods such as the early evening to ensure that the buildings are adequately covered at all times. If cases come to notice of men who have distinguished themselves, it would be appropriate to give suitable commendations.

4. I am further to add that special arrangements for the sale or distribution of food to the A.R.P. staff against an emergency proved a very valuable stabilising factor in the present situation all offices should do their best to make provision on these lines.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. x x x
for Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

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A.R.P. in Central Government Buildings,
Calcutta.

Lessons from the air raids.

1. Operatin

1. Operation of A.R.P. Services. The object of night attendance for A.R.P. Services is to give as much protection as possible to the building and contents against air raid damage, chiefly from fire, and to those persons who have to remain on the premises at night.

(a) Stirrup Pump Parties and Fire Watchers.

(i) Personnel must be on duty at all times and they must proceed to their place of duty when the air raid siren sounds, At one office A.R.P. personnel who were due to report for duty at 9.30 p.m. WERE CAUGHT ON THEIR WAY TO THE OFFICE BY THE air raid warning. Most of them succeeded in reaching the office shortly after the "Raiders Passed" had sounded. This was a good effort, but they would have been of no use to guard the building against fire due to incendiary bombs, and unless there were other personnel on duty before 9.30 p.m. the building must have been unguarded.

(ii) Stirrup Pump Parties must remain on the floor to which they are posted so that they can get to work without delay. They should remain during an "Alert" period in the specially protected posts provided or failing that in the safest place which can be found on that floor, away from any glasses. They must remain on the look out all through the raid. Where specially protected posts have not been provided, the Executive Engineer P.W.D., and the Superintending Inspector, Factory A.R.P., 11/1 Mission Row, (in consultation with the Chief Warden of the building), shoud select the safest small, room or corner on the floor in question and should have the necessary adaptations carried out as quickly as possible e.g. removal of glass, and if necessary the construcrion of baffle walls for lateral protection. 9" walls need not be thickned. Baffles constructed of filled sand bags give excellent protection against splinters and glass. Small slits should be provided for observation purposes.

(iii) Fire watchers in protected posts on roofs should have the quickest possible means of communication with Stirup Pump Parties below Extensions to telephones or electric bells are out of the question owing to lack of instruments and wire. Whistles and megaphones should be provided, and the best arrangement possible in the circumstances should be made and practised.

(b) Trailer Pump crews. At one office the Trailer Pump was reported to be "out" (presumably out of its House) by 5 or 6 minutes after the "alert". This is a mistake. The consequences were seen at another office where the Trailer Pump standing outside its protected House suffered damage of a kind which cannot be rapaired locally and which consequently disabled it for some to come. Trailer Pumps should be kept in their protected houses until actually required for action. Trailer Pump crews should be ready for instant action on the "Alert" but should remain inside the protected Houses with the pumps. If crews are using the protected House as a shelter so that there is no room for the Pump, their bunks and equipment should be removed and another shelter found for them close by. If there is no protected House, the safest possible corner should be found for the Pump and the lateral protection should be completed by means of baffle walls. If it is necessary to build a new Trailer Pump House, it should follow the design shown on Sheet No.11 "A Summary of A.R.P. applied to Factores", 3rd edition, which provides room both for the Pump and for the crew.

(c) First Aid Personnel. First Aid personnel should be on duty throughout the raid in the First Aid Post or Centre. At one office the First Aid Post was locked during a raid and the key was not handed to the Chief Warden on duty.

(d) Wardens. Wardens responsible for sectors should take shelter with the Stirrup Pump Parties or in other fairly safe places and shpuld visit their personnel at intervals during lulls. Shelter Wardens should be in the shelters with any office staff caught by the raid who do not form part of the A.R.P.

2. Office staff other than A.R.P. personnel. Anyone caught in the building who has no A.R.P. duties to perform should proceed to shelter and remain there until the "Raiders Passed" is sounded.

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

General and Revenue Secretariat,

Bangalore, Dated, 2nd April 1943.

No. 3820-23/W

From W 217-42-2.

The Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

To

The I.G.P., Chief Engr., A.R.P.Controller & Bangalore
Chief Inspector of Factories.

Sir,

A.R.P. in respect of Government Buildings.

I am directed to forward herewith for information and suitable action copy of a letter from the Government of India (Civil Defence Department)-No.D.458-A.R.P.(Poll)43, dated the 12th March 1943, with enclosure on the above subject, since received from the Residency.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

For Chief Secretary to Government.

Copy of letter No.D.458-A.R.P.(Poll)/43. dated the 12th March 1943, from the Government of India, Civil Defence Department, New Delhi, to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore.

Civil Defence Department (Political) Circular No.5/43.

Subject:- A.R.P.in respect of Government Buildings.

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P.T.O.

W21HP-42-1 2761/W

(ii) The necessity of preventing neglect of A.R.P. duty by volunteer ARP personnel, ARP personnel in Government buildings have voluntarily undertaken an important patriotic duty, and they are to be commended for doing so. The obligations of volunteering must however be brought home to them: they are volunteers, but are not as such at liberty to absent themselves at will when their turn of duty comes round.

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A.R.P. in Central Government Buildings, Calcutta.

Lessons from the air raids.

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(c) Stirrup Pump Parties and Fire Watchers.

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CONFIDENTIAL

No.F.3(38)-42/W. (Encl).

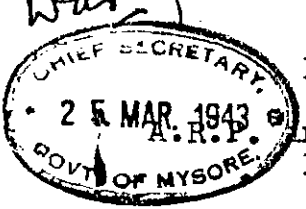
From

The Secretary to the Hon'ble
the Resident in Mysore.

To

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

War



Bangalore, 24th March 1943.

A.R.P. in respect of Government Buildings.

Sir,

I am directed to forward for information and such action as may be considered necessary a copy of a letter from the Government of India (Civil Defence Department) No.D.458-A.R.P.(Poll)43, dated the 12th March 1943, with enclosure.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

for SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT.